

I realize that this comment period is intended as no more than a steamventing process, that it has been deliberately made too short to actually engage the attentive involvement of the public which you purport to serve. I realize that you must work for the benefit of your corporate funders who financed the campaigns of the politicians who appointed you. I realize you will likely ignore anything I say in this message, because I don't have a retinue of attorneys or lobbyists in my employ, and I will not be able to offer you a comfortable sinecure after your retirement from the FCC to private industry. I'm sorry about this. However, I still retain a faint hope, albeit misguided, that even you who sit on the current FCC might listen, and that I might be able to share with you my concerns as a citizen worried about the future of American democracy.

I wish to call your attention to the fact that just six companies now control the majority of all radio broadcasting, tv broadcasting, newspaper publishing, book publishing, music publishing, and movie production (Ben Bagdikian, The Media Monopoly and updates thereto; the number has continuously declined since Bagdikian's book was first published). I wish to call your attention to the fact that important information that Americans need to make wise decisions about the direction of their republic is routinely suppressed by those who control the media today (Robert W. McChesney, Rich Media, Poor Democracy). I wish to call your attention to the fact that even PBS, which purports to produce programming based on nonprofit and noncommercial values, has a show called "Marketplace," which allows its well-heeled subscribers who can afford to pay \$50 to their public radio station to learn the latest stock market developments, but PBS has no show called "Workplace," which might allow working people to learn the latest developments affecting them as workers.

I wish to urge you to heed these and countless other warning signs, and rethink the destructive course you are set in. Please stop dismantling the crossownership and other supposedly "outdated" regulations. Call a timeout and give all us citizens a chance to have a nationwide public debate on the profound ramifications of these changes.

Thank you for your time,

Guy Berliner